

# CITY OF LODI

## COUNCIL COMMUNICATION

AGENDA TITLE: Presentation of February "Community Improvement Award."

MEETING DATE: March 17, 1999

PREPARED BY: Community Development Director

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RECOMMENDED ACTION: That the Mayor present Christopher & Denise Ellsworth, Owner-occupants of the single-family residence located at 322 N. Pleasant, with the Community Improvement Award for March 1999.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION: The existing house and detached garage building were originally moved onto the property in 1955, from their original location at 201 N. School Street in Lodi. That Victorian single-family dwelling was converted with permits to a duplex in 1962, and finally to a triplex in 1975.

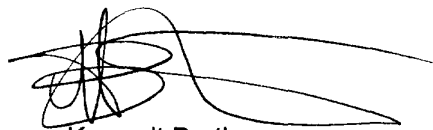
More recently, the property came to the attention of the Community Improvement Division, when the Lodi Police Department arrested the occupants of one of the rental units and discovered that a clandestine methamphetamine lab had been set up and in use in the upstairs unit. Subsequent to that discovery, the building was posted with a Notice to Vacate and the building was cleaned of any illegal materials and tested to verify that there was no residual contamination.

The property remained vacant after that and the property owner at the time lost the property in foreclosure. The current owners, the Ellsworths, purchased the property from the beneficiary and immediately started working with the Community Development Department to get approval for a major renovation that returned the structure to its original configuration as a single-family dwelling.

Chris Ellsworth, family and friends worked on the renovation through 1998. The completed project stands as a beautiful example of not only Victorian architecture and exterior decoration, but also of the commitment of these residents of Lodi in improving their neighborhood and our City as a whole.

For their efforts and accomplishments in improving this property, and in turn their neighborhood and our community, Christopher & Denise Ellsworth have been selected to receive the Community Improvement Award for the month of March, 1999.

FUNDING: None.

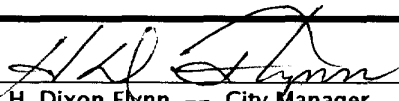


Konradt Bartlam  
Community Development Director

Prepared by Joseph Wood, Community Improvement Manager

KB/JW/j

APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_



H. Dixon Flynn -- City Manager

Christopher & Denise Ellsworth

03/09/99